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Sent: 3/18/2019 3:26:24 PM
To: R6Press [R6Press@epa.gov]
Subject: Daily News Digest, Monday, March 18
Attachments: Daily News Digest 031819.pdf

**Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.*

**To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email R6Press@epa.gov.*

1 – Deer Park plant fire spreads to eight tanks; shelter-in-place lifted, Houston Chronicle, 3/18/19

<https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Deer-Park-plant-fire-spreads-to-five-more-tanks-13696392.php>

Deer Park officials have lifted the shelter-in-place after a petrochemical fire that has now spread to eight tanks. Deer Park emergency officials said at 5:30 a.m. that no air quality readings from the fire at Intercontinental Terminals Company "have exceeded action levels."

2 - New Mexico issues river warning after blizzard causes Colorado plant failure, Denver Post, 3/15/19

<https://www.denverpost.com/2019/03/15/new-mexico-water-plant-failure-blizzard/>

The winter storm that blasted through the West this week knocked out a mine wastewater treatment plant in Colorado, prompting officials to warn Friday against using water from two rivers downstream in New Mexico.

3 - Environmental impact statement proposes keeping mine open until 2033, Farmington (NM) Daily Times, 3/16/19

<https://www.daily-times.com/story/news/2019/03/16/eis-recommends-keeping-san-juan-mine-open-least-another-decade/3178160002/>

The San Juan Mine could continue to provide coal to the San Juan Generating Station, or another customer, until 2033. The final Environmental Impact Statement for the mine's Deep Lease Extension recommends allowing up to 53 million tons of coal to be removed from the mine. That would allow the mine to supply coal to the power plant for at least another decade should it stay open past 2022.

4 - Pollutants judged too high at 4 Arkansas waste sites, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 3/17/19

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2019/mar/17/pollutants-judged-too-high-at-4-waste-s/>

Otero County Commissioner Gerald Matherly wanted to start a discussion about possible water contamination at Holloman Air Force Base, and it happened at the Otero County Commission regular meeting March 14.

5 - Otero County gets briefing on HAFB water issues, drinking water is fine, Alamogordo (NM) Daily News, 3/16/19

<https://www.alamogordonews.com/story/news/local/community/2019/03/16/otero-county-gets-briefing-hafb-water-issues/3174506002/>

Ethanol consumption fell in 2018 for the first time in 20 years, an industry group said today, blaming the decline on EPA's decision to ease ethanol blending requirements for some small refineries.

6 – Dump contracts in review stages, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 3/16/19

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2019/mar/16/dump-contracts-in-review-stages-2019031/?news-arkansas>

Contracts to expand efforts to extinguish an underground landfill fire in Bella Vista are in the early stages of review, according to the state Department of Environmental Quality.

7 – How climate hogged the CERAWEEK spotlight, E&E News, 3/18/19

<https://www.eenews.net/energywire/2019/03/18/stories/1060127507>

One of the world's most prominent oil and gas conferences took on a new and rare note of climate urgency last week — a departure from the days of worrying about the dizzying ups and downs of production. Although it was CERAWeek by IHS Markit, it often sounded more like climate week.

8 - East Lubbock Community Alliance begins testing air quality affected by industrial zoning, KCBD, 3/15/19

<http://www.kcbd.com/2019/03/15/east-lubbock-community-alliance-begins-testing-air-quality-caused-by-industrial-zoning/>

The East Lubbock Community Alliance is in the process of powering up the first of several air quality monitors set to see if industrial zoning concentrated in North and East Lubbock has any negative impact on residents.

9 - Students globally protest warming, pleading for their future, E&E News, 3/18/19

<https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2019/03/15/stories/1060127413>

Students across a warming globe pleaded for their lives, future and planet Friday, demanding tough action on climate change. From the South Pacific to the edge of the Arctic Circle, angry students in more than 100 countries walked out of classes to protest what they see as the failures by their governments.

10 – Owners seek second hog farm permit, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 3/17/19

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2019/mar/17/owners-seek-second-hog-farm-permit-2019/?news-arkansas>

Co-owners of a Newton County hog farm have resubmitted their application to build a hog farm in Franklin County. Philip Campbell and Jason Henson, who co-own C&H Hog Farms with Richard Campbell, withdrew the application late last year after the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality asked for more information, saying they needed more time.

11 – EPA bans consumer use of deadly paint stripper, in rare step, Fox 25, 3/16/19

<https://okcfox.com/news/local/epa-bans-consumer-use-of-deadly-paint-stripper-in-rare-step>

The Environmental Protection Agency on Friday banned consumer use of a popular but deadly paint stripper but stopped short of also banning commercial use of the product by tradespeople.

12 – City-parish drainage director discusses projects in the pipeline, Baton Rouge Advocate, 3/17/19

https://www.theadvocate.com/baton-rouge/news/article_97a4f2a0-361e-11e9-83f5-b75989197aee.html

The City of Central has stated that since the 2016 flood it has cleaned or removed debris from an estimated linear footage of drainage channels at 248,420 feet, or 47 miles. The Advocate has reported that Livingston Parish is receiving \$50 million from the federal government to clear 300 miles of waterways. What type and kind of drainage work has East Baton Rouge Parish completed since the 2016 flood?

13 – Water and sewer project may cost 3 times estimate, Shreveport Times, 3/15/19

<https://www.shreveporttimes.com/story/news/2019/03/15/water-and-sewer-cost-largely-underestimated/3168783002/>

The original 2014 estimate on a federally-mandated water and sewer project was off by hundreds of millions of dollars, according to the Director of the Water and Sewer Department.

14 – New drainage pump station under construction near Jean Lafitte, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 3/16/19

<https://www.nola.com/environment/2019/03/new-drainage-pump-station-under-construction-near-jean-lafitte.html>

Jefferson Parish officials broke ground this week on a \$3.2 million drainage pumping station to mitigate flooding in the Jean Lafitte area. Goose Bayou Station No. 2 is being built along Central Avenue in lower Lafitte with two electric pumps, each with the capacity to move water into The Pen at a rate of 35 cubic feet per second, and a diesel backup generator.

15 – Bill would extend permits for infrastructure, E&E News, 3/15/19

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/03/15/stories/1060127441>

Legislation from California Democratic Rep. John Garamendi would extend pollution permits with the goal of helping local water infrastructure projects. H.R. 1764 would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to let regulators

issue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits to states or municipalities for up to 10 years, an increase from the current limit of five years.

16 – Recent Federal Developments March 16, 2019, National Law Review, 3/16/19

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/recent-federal-developments-march-16-2019-epa-fda-tsca-fifra-tri>

Recent Federal Developments covering: TSCA, FIFRA, TRI, RCRA, CERCLA, CWA, CAA, PHMSA, FDA, nanotechnology, biobased and renewable products and miscellaneous legislative updates.